

COLORADO LIBERTY

The Libertarian Party of Colorado Newsletter

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Want to make a suggestion for this newsletter?

**We want to hear from you!
What would you like to see more of in this newsletter?**

Email all inquiries to newsletter@lpcolorado.org. If you have any general questions about the party, Libertarianism, or just want to chat it up with fellow Libertarians, email info@lpcolorado.org, and we'll get you squared away in no time.

Thanks for your continued support, and for helping us make history in Colorado!

LPCO At People's Fair!



The Libertarian Party of Colorado kicked off outreach season with a booth at People's Fair this month. We had a blast, talking to people from all over the state. The response was warm, even if the weather was uncooperative most of the time. We even met a handful of people who have expressed a very active interest in our party, and will join us as advocates and activists for Liberty.

We want all of our outreach to be as successful as this one was, but we can't do it without your help. If you are at all interested in getting involved, PLEASE respond to this newsletter, or email Alan Hayman at membershipdirector@lpcolorado.org, so he can add you to the mailing list. We especially need volunteers for PrideFest this coming weekend. Meeting like-minded liberty lovers is fun, and if you wanna join us, we need you! [Click here](#) to sign up for Pridefest, and read the rest of this newsletter to find out other ways you can help.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR: **THE MESSAGE OF LIBERTY**

Dear Readers,

I recently had the pleasure of attending the first Libertarian Political EXPO (LPEX) which was held concurrently with the Libertarian State Leadership Alliance (LSLA) meeting, as well as the Nevada and California State Conventions. The event was held in Las Vegas from May 28th to May 31, and there were about 370 people through the door - a great turnout for an inaugural event. About 12 state chairs or their representatives attended, along with quite a few LNC members, 30 vendors, and many others. Jim Gray represented Our America Initiative to host the social hour one night and give an update on the lawsuit against the Commission on Presidential Debate. Hopefully next year will be even more of a success than this year was!



I was recently on 1310 KFKA's "Stacy Petty Show" on June 11th talking about my State Chair position and Libertarian Party in Colorado. If you missed it, [you can listen online](#). I will also be a [guest speaker at Freedom Fest](#) on two panels: American Dream Panel on July 8th 5:40pm, and the Panel on China on July 10th 3:30pm. Please come to join us if you are going to be at Freedom Fest!



Last but certainly not least, I will be doing my part at LPCO's booth during PrideFest on June 21. Please come to help us reaching out to all the potential Libertarians or just stop by to say hello. Get involved. Our Libertarian movement is here and we need you!

Sincerely,

Lily Tang Williams

Want To Get Involved?



By Jay North

The question many members of the Libertarian Party (LP) ask themselves and others is “How do I get involved in the Libertarian Party?” Here are 13 suggestions to help you get started. By doing one or more of these items will help you and the LP of Colorado spread the idea of Liberty.

- 1 Learn the LP Colorado Platform!** I know, just the word "Platform" sounds boring. The platform is where LP Colorado defines the principles that the party supports. For the Party Platform, [click here](#).
- 2 Join us on Meetup.** We put all of the LP Colorado activities on Meetup and you will never miss an opportunity to go to an event.
- 3 Volunteer your time.** More important than money is time. Spending time at events helps spread the word of Liberty faster than money donations. The Party purchases booths at many events throughout the year and having you there to volunteer is more valuable than donations. Come spend time at the booths. You get to know other Libertarians, they are a lot of fun, and you get to spread the idea of Liberty.
- 4 Like the LP Colorado Facebook page:** Share the Facebook page with

your friends on Facebook, and ask them to “Like” it as well!

- 5 Join the 1776 Club** for at least \$10 per month. Helping the LP Colorado with funds, even though home and business budgets are tight, help spread the message of Liberty. To join the 1776 Club, [click here](#).
- 6 Register to Vote Libertarian.** This helps the LP Colorado become more established in the State as a viable party.
- 7 Sign-up for the LP national email newsletter.**
- 8 Join your [county affiliate](#).**
- 9 Call into radio talk shows** and mention the libertarian message and the Libertarian Party. It is OK to be nervous, I was the first many times I called in. You'll hear me periodically on KLZ560. I'm the Jay from Elizabeth. I mention the Libertarian Party on the topics that fit. It is fun and easy to do.
- 10 Attend** local community, township, county, village, and/or municipal meetings and events. If possible, plan an outreach booth at these events, we'll round up volunteers see suggestion #3.
- 11 Attend** your local town or city council meetings to learn what's happening politically. Often times, no one in the public actually attends, and politicians are interested in the ideas of a new face.
- 12 Notify the LP Colorado board of events happening.** Outreach@lpcolorado.org is the best option, also include chair@lpcolorado.org and vicechair@lpcolorado.org, between the three board members your event will receive recognition.
- 13 Permission isn't needed!** The Libertarian Party is made up of grassroots activists making a difference. You can do it and the LP Colorado Party will be there to support you.

How To Be A Candidate: A Step-by-Step Guide

By Jack Woehr
LPCO Campaigns Director

This article concerns local and state elections only, because federal races are different in many respects. This article is also NOT intended to give any legal advice, and is merely an informal guide, based on many years of experience.



1. Think. Why am I running? What do I hope to accomplish? What are my strengths? What are my weaknesses? Am I prepared to spend months or perhaps years making myself attractive as a candidate to hundreds and thousands of voters? Do I want to be a “line holder”, i.e., a nominal candidate, or am I really seeking office? Am I personally and financially ready to spend time away from my “real life” running for office? If elected, would I be able personally and financially to serve?

2. Prepare to run as a Libertarian. Register to vote as a Libertarian (or change existing registration) one hundred fifty (150) days prior to the Primary Election. You must be registered at least 90 days before the nominating convention in order to vote at that convention. Contact the Campaigns Director of the Libertarian Party of Colorado at campaigns@lpcolorado.org.

3. Start your campaign. Find persons to help you in several roles:

- Campaign manager:** Schedules candidate; fields and routes contacts with campaign; helps and encourages candidate.
- Treasurer:** handles filing; knows or is willing to learn assiduously campaign filing rules and practices; keeps campaign within the law, violation of which carries fines and possible prison sentences!
- Media manager:** press releases; social media; news inquiries; advertising.

The Libertarian Party of Colorado can help you with training these individuals. The Colorado Secretary of State also offers many training sessions on campaign filings. Another thing to do when starting a campaign is to register a committee with the Secretary of State. You cannot raise funds until you register a committee!

Then, start campaigning! Attend Libertarian events mentioned on the web ([LPCO](#), [LP](#), [Meetup](#), etc). Join every civic club in your electoral district that will have you. With literature in hand, go door to door with your supporters. Schedule meet and greet at supermarkets. Have a lively social media presence. Raise Money! Spend Money Sparingly!

4. Actually receive a nomination. Note that all the actions prescribed above can take place **before you actually have the nomination**. There is no reason to wait for a nomination to begin campaigning as described. Quite the contrary, the road to public office is years long. Only candidates who go the distance generally have any chance of winning. Candidates with a lively, organized, funded campaign coming into the nominating convention will always have the inside track to the nomination they desire.

First, attend the Colorado Libertarian Party Convention, which begins with a mixer on Friday, March 11, 2016 at 6:00pm. Meet and greet people, and then have a supporter nominate you at the nominating assembly portion of the business meeting. Speak briefly on your goals, organization and support, then accept your nomination after the vote. You will be required to sign a statement to the effect that you support the Statement of Principles of the Libertarian Party. File the candidate acceptance with the Colorado Secretary of State. File your financial disclosure statement with the Colorado Secretary of State. Associate your already-formed campaign committee with your accepted candidacy registration with the Colorado Secretary of State.

5. Campaign through the electoral season. Meet as many voters as possible. Look voters in the eye. Identify and address voter concerns, not your concerns. Speak wherever invited. Focus on listening. Public office is not about you or your ideals. Public office is your providing service to the voters while you are empowered by your ideals. Keep your staff motivated. Attend parades, issue press releases, and bombard voters via social media. You can set up a free candidate website at sites like [democracy.com](#). Raise funds using the latest social media techniques. Keep going door-to-door. Work your hindquarters off. You *may* get elected!!!

Do you want to make a difference on the local level? Run for office!

The next election is Tuesday, November 3, 2015. Several Colorado municipalities will choose their leadership during the upcoming November election. The following is a list of many of the seats that are open. **This is not an exhaustive list.** If you are interested in running for office, contact the city clerk of the area in which you live as early as possible. In addition to explaining the campaign rules for your municipality, the city clerk can provide you information regarding the Colorado Fair Campaign Practices Act.

Aurora – Aurora voters will elect three city council members, two at-large council members and mayor.

Arvada – Arvada voters will elect three city council members, one at-large council member and their next mayor.

Centennial – Centennial voters will elect four city council members, one from each of their four districts.

Greenwood Village - Voters will elect eight council members and their mayor.

Edgewater – Edgewater voters will elect four four-year term council members, one two-year term council member, and one two-year mayoral seat.

Englewood - Englewood voters will elect two city council members and two at-large representatives. Candidate information packets for the election will be available beginning July 1, 2015.

Golden - This very important election will be for city council members. The website has not been updated, so contact the city for info.

Lakewood - Voters will elect one representative for each ward, as well as the mayor.

Littleton – The city clerk will update the website at the end of May to detail requirements for running for office. Petitions will be available August 4, 2015. For further information, contact the Littleton City Clerk's office.

Wheat Ridge – Wheat Ridge voters will elect four city council members in addition to their city clerk and city treasurer.

For more info about elections in your area, email Jack Woebr at campaigns@lpcolorado.org.

Candidate and Campaign Volunteer Classes!

Two classes will be taking place in Jefferson County on Saturday, June 20 from 9am to 5pm. The event is co-sponsored by American Majority as well as Colorado Issues Coalition. The first class is on “Candidate Preparedness” and the second class is on “Campaign Volunteer Training.” If either of these things interests you, we highly recommend checking them out! For info on the Candidate Preparedness class, [click here](#). For the Campaign Volunteer class, [click here](#).



ON THE BLOG>>>

Upcoming Blogs...

~Full analysis of legislative session, along with an update from our ever-busy Legislative Director, Michael Stapleton (in the next couple of days).

~Commentary on immigration reform.

~More articles like these (with your help)!

Lawmakers Push Back on Red Light Cameras

One of the good things to come out of the recent legislative session was a limitation on the very unpopular use of red light cameras. However, even though two bills were successfully passed to this end, Governor Hickenlooper vetoed both.

Read all about it in a great article by Sheilah Davis by [clicking here](#).

Also, from the same author, is an article about the recent legislature's approach to the problem of police brutality. Read about the unsuccessful attempts by lawmakers to address this issue, and about what a Libertarian solution might look like. To read that article, [click here](#).

Our blog is a work in progress, and we would love your input! What would you like to see more of? Would you like to contribute? Let us know by responding to this newsletter, or email newsletter@lpcolorado.org.

